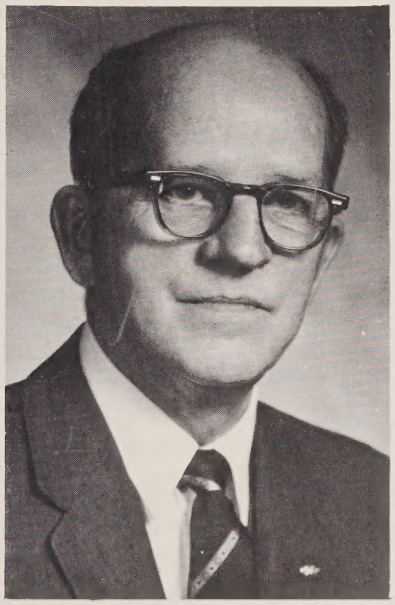
VOL. 13 MAY, 1969 NO. 3



WILLIAM ARTHUR HOOKS
Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina

Regular Meeting

NEW BERN LODGE OF PERFECTION NO. 6
MONDAY NIGHT, MAY 12, 1969
8:00 P. M.

REFRESHMENTS

THE BAGPIPE

516 Hancock St., New Bern, N. C.

Issued Monthly except July and August by
NEW BERN SCOTTISH RITE BODIES
New Bern, N. C. 28560

ROBERT L. PUGH ..... *Editor*
FLORIE G. DILL ..... *Ass't. Editor*

Address all Communications to THE SECRETARY, P.O. Box 1449, New Bern, N. C.

Second Class Postage paid at New Bern, N. C.
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE — INCLUDED WITH ANNUAL DUES. CIRCULATION 4,500

New Bern, N. C. May, 1969
Vol. 13 No. 3

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Junior Warden	James W. Brewer
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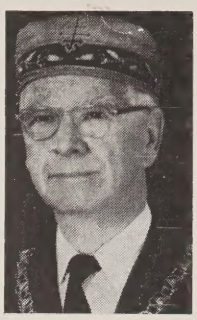
ALLEGIANCE



Ill. Luther A. Smith 33°

The several Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of New Bern, Orient of North Carolina, acknowledge and yield Allegiance to to the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, the Mother Supreme-Council of the World, whose see is at Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, of which LUTHER A. SMITH, 33°, is Grand Commander, C. FRED KLEINKNIGHT, JR., 33°, is Grand Secretary General, JAMES G. JOHNSTON, 33°, is Sovereign Grand Inspector General in N. C., and ROBERT L. PUGH, 33°, is Personal Representative in the Valley of New Bern of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in N. C.

Ill. James G. Johnston 33°

THE SCOTTISH RITE CREED

The cause of human progress is our cause, the enfranchisement of human thought our supreme wish, the freedom of human conscience our mission and the guarantee of equal rights to all peoples everywhere, the end of our contention.

THE RISEN CHRIST

If you had climbed Golgotha,
There saw Him crucified,
Felt the agony and pain
And knew that He died,
Would you have believed the words He said,
"The dead shall live again,"
Or would you have thought as others thought—
He lived and died in vain.

If you had walked in the Garden
The first new Easter dawn,
Searched alone in the still, dark tomb
And found the body gone—
Would you have cried in anguish,
"They have taken Him away"
Or would you have sung with the angels,
"Glad Resurrection Day."

If you had seen the Master
That glorious Eastern Morn',
Looked at the nail prints in His hands
And scars from the crown of the thorns
Would you have looked "among the dead,"
Still searched in the empty tomb,
Or would you have rushed with the believers
Into the Upper Room.

If you had been beside the sea
And heard His new command,
"Go forth, proclaim to all the world
Christ lives, and redeems man."
Would you have said, I will! I will
Proclaim eternal life."
For if you would or if you will,
You know the risen Christ.

J. Garland Metts
Easter 1969

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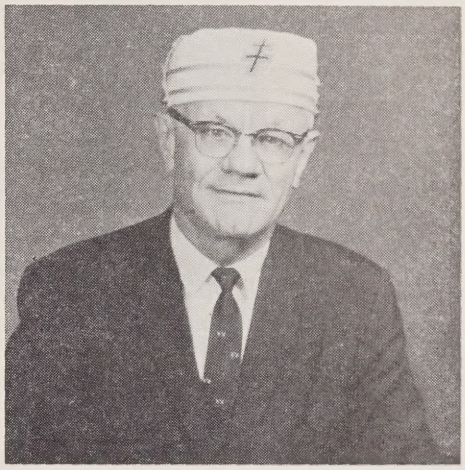


R. L. PUGH, 33°

Dear Brethren:

Our Reunion was a tremendous success! We concluded with a class of 150 candidates which was a very pleasing number. Not as many as we had wanted, of course, but sufficient to inspire us to greater activity for our next Reunion.

The dates of the next Reunion are November 18, 19 and 20, 1969. 150 members of our class have already received their dues cards for the year and along with each card was an attached petition for the degrees. These Brethren should now, by all rights, be our most enthusiastic salesmen. They are fresh from the inspiration of the degrees and are inspired to make the teachings of the Scottish Rite available to other Master Masons who need to be in our membership also.

All of the Brethren who participated in the degrees, and the other groups of workers without whom no Reunion could be effected, performed their responsibilities beautifully and the Scotttish Rite is deeply indebted to them.

The special features of the Reunion were very successful and well received. "Miss North Carolina of 1969" (Miss Anita Johnson) was beautiful in her presentation. As was to have been expected, she immediately captivated the audience during the banquet on Tuesday evening and the response from the Brethren indicated their enthusiastic approval of her presence with us. Since the next day was "Miss North Carolina's" birthday, she was presented a beautiful three tiered birthday cake which was a complete surprise to her.

Our Inspector General, Ill. Brother James G. Johnston, 33°, brought a very challenging message on Wednesday evening, which also was enthusiastically received and which is reprinted in this issue of the BAGPIPE in order that full distribution of its valuable contents might be made available to all our Brethren. The Inspector General's charming wife, Sarah, was also present to the delight of the Brethren, and as a parting gift she and her husband were presented a beautiful silver wine cooler suitably engraved.

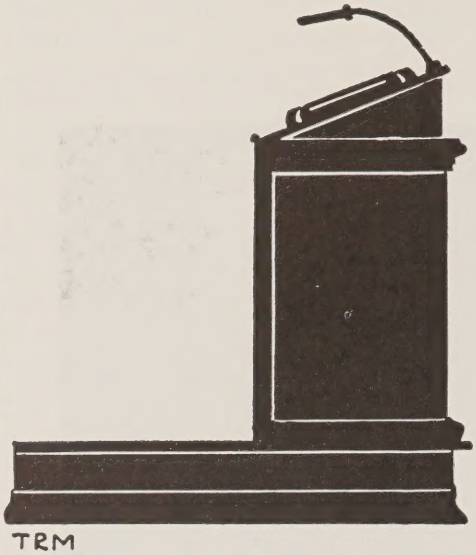
The final night was "Grand Master of Masons' Night" and Brother Robert N. Bass, Jr., Grand Master of Masons of North Carolina, was present and several of the Grand Lodge Officers. The Grand Master brought a message in keeping with the season. Brother Bass favored our Bodies with two visits during his year of administration and needless to say we are grateful to him for all of the assistance he has rendered.

Brethren, let us not remain in idleness during the intervening months before our next Reunion. There are many contacts which should be made and which must be made. In the meantime our office will be in touch with you concerning some more enthusiastic plans for our next Reunion which, if properly implemented, we still believe will result in a class of 200! That remains our goal.

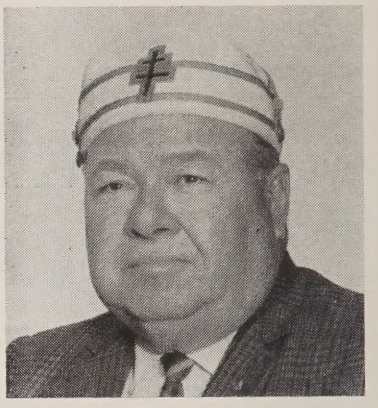
Sincerely and fraternally yours,

R. L. Pugh

Robert L. Pugh, 33°
Secretary



From The Classroom



BY EDWARD P. BLAIR, 33° CLASS LECTURER

What Does Scottish Masonry Say To You?

The Spring Reunion is over; another fine and wonderful group of Brethren are in the fold. What does this mean? They now belong to a glorious, wonderful movement. What does Scottish Masonry say to you? I am afraid that it speaks a different language to some people, or perhaps I should say some people hear the words differently. What we hear means the interpretation we put on it, and how nearly we act the part out in our daily living.

Free-Masonry for years has been defined as a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. Morality comes close home to each one of us because it concerns us; without the fruits of our morality our religion is barren.

There is a depth to Scottish Masonry of unknown proportions, for if we study its purposes, we find new meanings and a noble philosophy. We find new avenues of service to God and to mankind. We really serve God, by serving His children here on this earth and its institutions. If we do not do this, who will do it?

One of the great lessons of Scottish Masonry is found within each human heart. What does Scottish Masonry say to you and what do you propose to do about it? It unites men of various sects, creeds, and opinions who might otherwise have remained at a distance. Its real beauty does not appear until it is put to work. Then it shows in abundance with clarity and effect. This does not mean in the lodge room alone, but in our community, our state and our nation.

What did Scottish Masonry say to you? May I take a moment to tell you what it said to me. **Scottish Masonry told me that what holds this world together is not chemistry, weapons and guns, but spirituality, forgiveness and hope; not blind chance but an eternal purpose. We are and represent one of God's greatest creations and we certainly were not just put here on this planet by this great Creator, to mean nothing, to do nothing, and to be nothing. Truth conquers evil and love is all powerful. There is and must be a Divine Creator to whom we should look for guidance and forgiveness. We show our love to this Creator when we extend it to our fellowmen. I saw in Scottish Rite Masonry, Love for God, Love for self, Love for fellowmen, Love for country and Love for our free institutions, our Public Schools, our churches and our Universities.**

What does Scottish Masonry say to you? The answer to this question and to many others reside within you, for that is its home.

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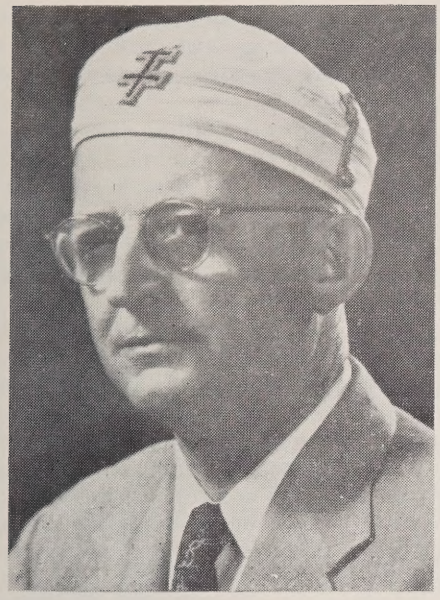

Ill. William J. Bundy, 33°, P. G. M.

Our Ill. Brother, William J. Bundy, 33°, was the speaker for our Maundy Thursday service commemorating the extinguishing of the lights. It was an address filled with significance and with deep meaning for that particular season. Unfortunately, not many of the Knights of the Rose Croix availed themselves of the privilege presented them. The attendance was very disappointing and we were so inspired by the address we thought all of the Brethren should have the opportunity to read it. It is, therefore, reproduced here as Sir Knight Bundy presented it on that occasion:

MAUNDY THURSDAY

The annual observance of this day, Maundy Thursday, is enjoined upon all Knights Rose Croix everywhere. By it we are caused to remember that Christ taught his disciples, saying: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another." With Him, the age old law of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" was changed, and there came into the world a new law, the law of love, the greatest advance in human relations since the beginning of time, and without which this old world cannot long endure. And by and with this new law it will endure, as we practice, not just preach, that law.

Our observance of this day originated out of two Biblical incidents: first, the birth and institution in Egypt of the first Feast of the Passover, followed by the mass escape of the Children of Israel from Egyptian slavery; and, second, the observance of the Passover Feast in Jerusalem more than a thousand years later by Christ and his twelve disciples, in "The Last Supper". This is not primarily a mere ritualistic procedure, the giving and receiving of bread and wine, but a token of brotherly love, the very first tenet of Freemasonry. Let us not think of this observance only in terms of this group here assembled within the walls of this temple but in terms of the other countless thousands of Knights Rose Croix privately and in hundreds of Masonic Temples in every corner of the world.

As we view the history of the world, and view the world as it is today, we say in the words of the Masonic poet:

"In twain the temple veil is rent;
The sheeted dead appear;
The Master hangs upon the cross,
And all is dark and drear.
An inky blackness hides the moon;
The waves are tempest tossed;
The mystic cube sweats blood, alas!
The Mason's World is lost."

The sad plight of the Children of Israel who had struggled four centuries to escape Egyptian bondage is too well known to repeat; and the story of the plagues, the destroying angel who swept through the land taking the lives of the first born of every household, except those marked by the blood of the Lamb, which were passed over, whence cometh the word "Passover". Then began the forty years of wandering. Although God divided the waters of the sea that they might escape the pursuing Egyptians, rained manna from Heaven to feed them, did numerous other things to help them reach the land of Canaan, even sending a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to guide them on their way, they turned often to the left and to the right, and the course they followed was not a straight one, and even Moses, the incomparable leader, because of his disobedience, was not permitted to enter the Promised Land.

With these signs in the heavens to lead them, and God's help in many other ways, why the endless wandering and frustration, and why so long to reach the Promised Land? Was it because they had been four hundred years in slavery and were ignorant of the outside world; knew nothing of the geography of the lands through which they passed, with wide rivers to cross, mountains in their way; warlike peoples and nature's barriers to avoid; or was it because they followed not the way the Lord showed them? We know that despite the obstacles in the way, had they from time to time, turned not away from the way the Lord showed them they would have reached the land overflowing with milk and honey much sooner.

So it is with us, my brethren. The Sacred Book, always on our altar, has made the way of life's journey too plain for error or even doubt. Like the Israelites of old, we follow not the light, and turn aside into devious paths. Though we have been furnished with an ever present road map, a sure and certain guide, to guide our path, we are left free to follow the way of our own choosing, and when we look back over the way we have traveled, many of us wonder how we got this far. The Lord showeth the way, but man must follow by his own free will and accord.

Each of us has a picture in his mind of Jesus's last Passover upon earth, his sadness, his betrayal, his execution, upon which it seemed that the cause for which he came into the world, lived and taught was lost. Betrayed by Judas for worldly gain; denied by Peter, the Rock,

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from weakness and fear, forsaken by the most of his followers, who were afraid to be known as such, on the cross, out of the agony of His spirit, in the depth of despair, He exclaimed "My God, My God, why persecuteth thou me?" But only for a moment, for in his dying breath he forgave the thief and those who brought about his inglorious end. The gospel of love He sealed with his life.

Surely then it seems that all was lost, but "Truth crushed to earth will rise again." For a long time those who believed in His way of life had to work underground. Slowly but surely He came to be known, loved and revered, until a large portion of the people of the earth now profess to follow His teachings. He led no mighty army, had no temporal kingdom or far-flung empire. He was a humble carpenter. He had no great temple or tabernacle whence to proclaim His message to the world, no newspapers, magazines, radio or television station. But dying as He did He bequeathed His teachings to man as an inestimable inheritance. He not only taught us to love one another, but He went about doing good.

"Captains and conquerors raise a little dust,
And kings a dubious record of their reign,
The swords of Caesar, they are less than rust,
The teachings of Jesus yet remain."

Even as it was dark for the Israelites, even as it was dark for Jesus and His followers, so it has been dark many times in history of man since. Nations, Kingdoms and Empires have risen and fallen. Each time one fell it decayed from within. It followed not the light; the people wandered off after strange Gods. They had not "Faith in God, Hope in immortality, and love for all mankind."

Must the world ever be at war? Must sin and crime prosper, and right and justice sleep? Today the world is divided into two armed camps, each looking for an opportunity to strike a mortal blow at the other. Science has progressed so far that it is not only conceivable, but likely enough to constitute a constant fear that life on the earth will be destroyed, and be extinguished in a few hour's time. Is not the temple rent in twain; doth not the cubicle stone sweat blood and water; doth it not seem that the world is lost?

It has been so many times. Just before dawn it is darkest. The essential and inherent goodness in man has manifested itself in all the crises in the world before to save it. Let us hope so now.

The Israelites found the Promised Land; the teachings of Jesus and other great teachers still live in the hearts of men. Columbus discovered the new world. England and America gave the world the concept of liberty and the dignity of free men. Masonry still lives.

World Communism has grown to its great power in less than fifty years. This is so because its adherents practice what they preach, and work at what they believe, from which we could take a lesson.

It is not enough to believe in, or to profess, high principles of right and virtue; we must practice them. To profess, and even to proclaim, that we believe in religion, and in Masonry, that we have Faith, Hope and Charity, is not enough, far from enough. Witness the condition of the world today. "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only." "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and hath not love, I am as the sounding brass and the tinkling cymbal."

Let us look to the pillars of the Temple: Faith (in God, mankind, and ourselves), Hope (in the victory over evil, the advancement of humanity and in eternal life), and Charity (relieving the wants and tolerant of the errors and faults of others).

We know that God is good, and that he loves. We know that man is immortal. We know the way for we have seen the light, and it is ever before us. Guided by such faith and knowledge we can overcome and subdue the forces of evil, but to do so, we must not sleep; we must be ever on the alert; we must fight with every weapon that God gives us. We must not only talk; we must do. Those of us who call ourselves Christians must not just believe; we must be; and so, with those of other religions, they must not only believe in Masonry, they must be Masons.

Let us be like Abou Ben Adham.

Babcock: "Masonry is not a voice in the wilderness, but a life in the world. It is not an idea in the air, but feet on the ground, going God's way. It is not an exotic to be kept under glass, but a hardy plant to bear twelve months of fruit in all kinds of weather. Fidelity to duty is the root and branch. Nothing we can say to the Lord, no calling Him by great or dear names, can take the place of the plain doing of His Will. We may cry out about the beauty of eating bread with Him in His Kingdom, but it is wasted breath and a rootless hope, unless we plow and plant in His Kingdom here and now. To remember Him

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at His table, and to forget Him at ours, is to have invested in bad securities. There is no substitute for plain everyday goodness."

Pike: "For this is the Masonic Creed:"

Believe in God's Infinite Benevolence, Wisdom and Justice; Hope for the final triumph of good over evil, and for perfect harmony as the final result of all the concords and discords of the Universe; and be charitable as God is, toward the unfaith, the errors, the follies and the faults of men; for all make one great brotherhood."

Ah, what a great force it would be, a force that could overcome any and all evil if all Masons lived what they profess to believe.

What would happen in this world if tonight all Knights Rose Croix throughout the globe were sincerely to mean what we say in the final prayer in the Thirty-second degree:

"Our Father, Who art in Heaven: Thou hast heard our solemn Vows and Obligations. We come now to renew them to Thee. Enable us to keep them faithfully. Have pity, Lord, for our weakness, and aid us with Thy strength. Let us not yield to temptation, and seek to usurp those powers that belong in common in all Thy children, and which we should labor to restore to their hands. Enable us to prevail against the selfishness, apathy and indifference of those around us, and to overcome the same within our own natures; and do Thou, O, our Father, in Thy good time, remove all obstacles to the final triumph of the great Law of Love, and to the universal dominion of the true principles of Masonry. For Thine art the Kingdom, the Victory and the Glory, in the infinite cycles of succession."

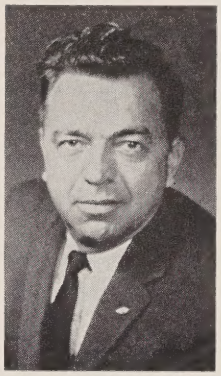
If we mean this prayer, and act accordingly, good must and will prevail. the Lord can lead us to the Promised Land only if we follow Him there. Then we can truly say, with the same Masonic poet I quoted in the beginning:

"Tis Easter Morn! All nature smiles,
The black-winged night had fled
The Master of all Wisdom has arisen
from the dead;
Resplendent shines the nuptic cube;
The silver trumpets sound,
Wide open are the Temple's gates,—
The Mason's word is found."

Bagpipe Skirls

Dear Brethren,

Henry Van Dyke wanted us to try this one for size. If it fits, and you're not out of breath when you finish this giant size question, you are ready for a new degree.



"Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children; to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whehter you love them enough; to bear in mind the things that those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden for your kindly feelings, with the gate open?"

It is something to be desired, isn't it?

Give because you love to give—as the flower pours forth its perfume.

Character gives splendor to youth and awe to wrinkled skin and gray hair.

A world traveler was seeking new excitement, so he entered a travel agency and asked to have passage booked to the moon. The ticket seller went along with the gag and said, "I can't help you. All flights have been canceled."

"How come?" asked the astonished man. "Bad weather?"

"No," replied the agent, "it's just that the moon is full tonight."

Our days are like identical suitcases —all the same size—but some people can pack more into them than others.

Success is a ladder we cannot climb as long as we keep our hands in our pockets.

The trouble with telling little white lies is that they pick up so much dirt while traveling.

He who makes the same mistake over and over again at least learns to do one thing well.

It may be tough on you trying to keep up with the neighbors, but just think how tough it must be on the neighbors trying to stay ahead.

One August evening, a tornado lifted the roof off the house of a new bride and groom and then set it down in the yard. The contents of a closet, including a cookbook, were blown away.

The next day a neighbor approached, carrying a cookbook he had found. When the young lady thanked him for its return, he said, "Glad to be of help." Then gazing at the damaged house, he added, "What were you cooking, anyway?"

What you don't know won't help you much, either.

On the wall of a traffic bureau: "In 1970 there will be more than 200 million automobiles. If you want to cross the street, you'd better do it now."

And now a word of welcome to our new Scottish Rite Masons. Welcome to the fold. May your experiences be rewarding.

Now to all of us: To a child who had asked for something to keep, Anne Monroe quotes the mother as answering, "We have nothing to keep, dear, in all this wide world, only things to use and love."

Your piper,
Paul Stevens

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WILLIAM ARTHUR HOOKS
Grand Master of Mason in North Carolina

On the sixteenth of April, 1969, at the One Hundred Eighty Second annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons A.F. & A.M. of North Carolina held in the Memorial Auditorium in Raleigh, William Arthur Hooks of Smithfield was elected to the office of Grand Master of Masons, a position formerly held by six of our historical Governors, beginning with Richard Caswell, and including such colorful greats as Richard Dobbs Spaight, Jr., William R. Davie (Founder of the University of North Carolina), Samuel Johnston, Benjamin Smith and Hutchins G. Burton, Jr.

Son of a country doctor and one of seven children, William Arthur Hooks was born in Smithfield, North Carolina, on a frosty morning November 13th, 1909, to Thel Hooks, M.D. and Eva Hood Hooks; and so began the career of a diligent and industrious young man.

He was educated in the public schools of Smithfield, Oak Ridge Military Institute and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

He began his business career early in a hardwood saw mill upon the Virginia-Tennessee line at the city of Bristol. After two years as a lumberman, he returned to Smithfield where he manned-the-pumps for the Holt Oil Company, Texaco Distributors, later operating his own station (Texaco) until 1942 when he joined the service department of the Wright Aeronautical Corp. in Patterson, New Jersey.

In 1944, he bought the Holt Oil Company and operated it under the name of Hooks & Layne Oil Company, expanding the business to include the Hooks & Layne Tire Co. covering a wide area of operation centered in Smithfield and Johnston County.

On November 25th, 1935, he married his pretty hometown sweetheart Nell Morgan Broadhurst. They are blessed with three daughters: Nell H. Bradbury and Julie H .Healy of Atlanta, Georgia; and Susan H. Poisson, of Miami, Florida, and abundantly blessed with a grandson, Quill O. Healy, II of Atlanta, and a granddaughter, Susan Doyle Poisson, of Miami.

It is easy to see that Bill is an integral, or functioning part of Smithfield. He is a member of Centenary Methodist Church, served on the Board of Stewards, and as Sunday School teacher for a class of High School Seniors, and a class of adults. He served six years on the Smithfield Board of Commissioners and was President of the Smithfield Chamber of Commerce in 1952.

Intra-State and nationally he received deserved recognition, i.e. Chairman of the Consignment Distributors Division of the N. C. Oil Jobbers Association—two terms. President of the Carolina Oil Fuel Institute for two years. Named "Man of the Month" (April 1962) by the Fuel Oil News, the national trade magazine.

In 1962, he received an award from the North Carolina Oil Jobbers Association as the person who had contributed most to the advancement of the heating oil industry in North Carolina during the year of its greatest growth. He was twice elected to the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the National Fuel Oil Institute of New York.

Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Fellowship Lodge No. 84 in Smithfield on March 12th, 1940, he was Master in 1952; Secretary 1953-1961; Certified Lecturer beginning in 1950; District Deputy Grand Master of the 14th District 1953-1954; and of the 49th District in 1955, being President of the District Deputy Grand Masters; named Mason of the Year in 1956 by Fellowship Lodge No. 84, and made a Life Member in 1960.

Member of the Goldsboro Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, Fayetteville Council Royal and Select Masters; Made Super-Excellent Master in Fayetteville. Member of the Goldsboro Commandery of the Knights Templar, and of the St. John of Patmos Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, being Standard Bearer in 1969. Raleigh Scottish Rite Bodies. Member of the North Carolina College of Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis. Member Sudan Temple A. A.O.N.M.S., New Bern. For many years Ambassador for Sudan Temple and for the Raleigh Scottish Rite Bodies.

Appointed Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of North Carolina by M.:. W.:. Brother James W. Brewer in 1961. Named to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada.

Served as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, near the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, 1957, and presently Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Utah, near the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

Grand Master of Masons, William Arthur Hooks is a Masonic purist. He is for the greater good of Masonry. He lives its finer attributes. It is said of him that he is greatest when a great situation presents itself.

We know that he is our Grand Master for three reasons: First, because of his high sense of duty to himself, his family, his God and his nation; Next, he has been tempered and tested in the quarries, on the walls and in the superstructures of the Temple; and foremost —we who love him put him there.

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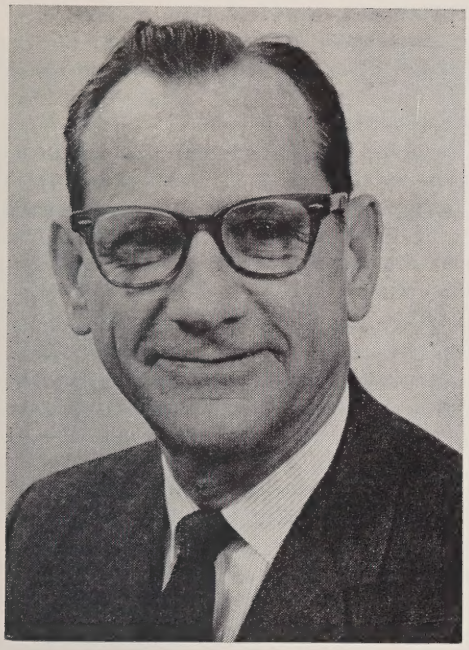

Ill. James G. Johnston, 33°
Sovereign Grand Inspector General in North Carolina

Our Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Ill. Brother James G. Johnston, 33° of Charlotte, was present with us during most of the Reunion and on Wednesday evening, which had been designated "The Inspector General's Night", he brought a most inspiring message on "Masonry and Americanism". It is of such tremendous importance that we wanted it to be made available to all of our Brethren and we herewith recommend it for your careful study.

Masonry and Americanism

I would like to talk with you a little while about Masonry and Americanism for that is one of the many activities of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry fostered under a plan devised by Grand Commander Luther A. Smith and developed by the Supreme Council, 33°, under the direction of the Grand Commander.

At the outset, though, I wish to make it plain that I am speaking as an individual Mason and not for official Masonry. Masonry as an organization takes no part in politics; it interferes in no way with the working of government. Its province is to build character, to cultivate right thinking among its members, to help them develop a state of mind that will enable them to do the right thing under all circumstances, but there is no earthly reason why individual Masons may not perform their duty to their government or to act in any official capacity for their state, for there never was a time in the history of the world when it was so important for Masons to practice the tenets of their profession as right now. We are living in a period of such great unrest that many concerned people wonder whether our civilization is about to disintegrate as that of Egypt, Greece and Rome did crumble under tyrannical rule and immoral and godless living. Idols became their gods as the idols of gold, status, deceit and false living have become our gods.

In our travels about the world I have observed that the relentless outpourings of the truthless Soviet propaganda machine, the vindictive utterances of the disgruntled old man of Vichy, France, the destructive and divisive acts of gullible people of our own land who listen to and are imbued with the godless communist ideology, the horrible mistakes made by our national administrations in international diplomacy during the years since the beginning of World War II, the constant and senseless pratings by men in authority about this being the greatest and most powerful nation on earth, our reticence to stand up with our chin out to the bullying of second and third rate dictators, and our national attempts to buy worthless friendships around the world have removed America in the eyes of the peoples of the world from the high place of respect it, as a nation, once enjoyed.

The dissipation of our national wealth through profligate living and the indolence of the individual have practically reduced us to a state of incompetence to defend ourselves against our enemies. At the beginning of the second World War we had no national debt; now thirty years later, our national debt alone is approaching the $300 billion mark. Add to this the obligations due by state, county and city governments and the figure is absolutely staggering. What if we had to fight another war? What if we were faced with the destructive power of another world conflict? The answer is obvious. Chaos, financial and moral.

God is denied and left entirely out of our National planning. The force of and reliance on Divine Guidance, under whose munificent hand the foundations of this Nation were laid, are ignored, disparaged and ridiculed. Pornography rules and filth in literature replaces the truth of the scriptures in popularity. Honest men have become "squares" and industry and thrift make for derision. A working stiff is a thing of scorn in the eyes of many.

Now let us go back to the beginning of the eighteenth century when Masonry as we know it today came into being. There was no religious liberty; men did not have the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. There was no equality before the law; the courts were in the hands of the ruling classes and justice was speedily decided in their favor. There was no equality of opportunity; the son of a poor man was born and reared to be a poor man; the son of a rich man was born and reared to be rich, and it was practically impossible for either to alter his condition. Education was only for the wealthy and those of noble birth. The laboring man suffered many injustices, and scant, if any, consideration was given to the poor and unfortunate. Yet there were men—thinking men, men of vision, men who regarded these conditions as intolerable and who rejected the idea such government could

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be of divine inspiration; they knew that God's plan for man was being violated. These men found in the ritual of Freemasonry a confirmation of their ideals. They found in Masonry a fellowship of forward looking men who knew no class distinction, who recognized the inherent dignity of labor, and whose ideal was the universal brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God.

Hearing of the wonderful country across the sea, these men came to America to escape the intolerable conditions under which they lived; they brought their Masonic Altars with them and set them up in the wilderness, and as the American colonies grew and prospered, the Masonic lodges grew and prospered with them.

The Green Dragon Tavern in Boston was headquarters for a group of colonists who met and discussed the questions of the day. Many of these meetings were presided over by Joseph Warren, who was Past Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts and who gave his life in defense of freedom at Bunker Hill. Another man who exerted a powerful influence over the country in that day was Paul Revere, Past Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. Their discussions there and elsewhere led to the Declaration of Independence, the first signature on which was that of John Hancock, another Fellow of the Craft.

Following the Declaration of Independence it became evident that there would be a struggle, and to the head of the Continental Army came a man who, because of his commanding personality, dominated the history of that period—George Washington, a Fellow of the Craft and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Nowhere else in our history as a nation is there a figure so pathetic and yet so sublime as that of George Washington at Valley Forge during the darkest hour of the war when defeat seemed imminent, kneeling in the snow in humble supplication to the Deity, because he had learned, just as all Masons are taught that when the strength and wisdom of man fail there is an inexhaustible source of power from above yielded to us through prayer.

These early Craftsmen fought a good battle for liberty and equality until tyranny and autocracy were overthrown, and for the first time in the history of the world a nation, erected upon the principles to which Freemasonry is dedicated, became a reality.

The Constitutional Convention was assembled and presided over by George Washington, Freemason, and attended by many devotees of the Craft—Benjamin Franklin, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Alexander Hamilton and many others.

The result of their labors, the Constitution of the United States, should be the freeman's catechism and should be a required course of study in every public school system in the land. Upon the bedrock of principles laid down in the declaration and in the Constitution those men built a nation Square, they built it Plumb, and they built it Level that it might endure forever. You may search the Constitution but in vain for a ruling class, for a state religion, for special privilege. You will find, amply guarded, a nation in which all have an equal voice. You will find complete religious liberty, equality of all men before the law, and equal opportunity for advancement to every human being within the boundary of this fair country, because Freemasons laid the foundation; they laid it according to plans designed by the Supreme Architect of the Universe upon the Masonic Trestleboard. Here or there, now and then, things have not worked out as they should have, but our system of government is serving all the people and doing it much more adequately than any other governmental system in existence. There have been instances when the law has been made the instrument of oppression. Legislation has at times been enacted for the benefit of privileged classes. Unworthy men frequently creep into public office. But who is at fault? Can we blame George Washington? Paul Revere? Joseph Warren? Benjamin Franklin? Or is it the fault of the individual citizen of today? Our ancient brethren built on a foundation which made possible the erection of a system of government that would last forever. Then, having completed their labors, they said to us: "Here! Here is a foundation upon which to build. Here is a constitution that places the government of your country absolutely in your hands to do with as you see fit." Is it the fault of our forefathers if we lack vision, if we have eyes and see not, and, having the working tools of the Ancient Craft, know not how to use them?

There is nothing wrong with our form of government. The trouble with our land today lies with us, its citizens. The cure is obvious. The answer is with us. We must return to the ways of our fathers; we must acknowledge, as a nation, the fatherhood of God and our reliance upon Him for Divine Guidance; we must as individuals create a moral wealth as well as economic wealth; we must as individuals concern ourselves with government, the selection of proper men for public office and then express to them our convictions on matters of state and law. We can no longer ignore our responsibilities as citizens, as Masons, as children and created in the image of God.

I must remind you that the thoughts of yesterday are the laws of today and the thoughts of today will be the laws of tomorrow. It is for you to say whether they will be high or low, whether your country will be foremost in the rank of world nations or will continue to sink to the level of mediocrity. Sensing these opportunities and coupled with an exultant cry will come another voice which, like the timeless words of the poet who centuries ago cried out:

"Establish Thou the works of our hands upon us,
Yea, the works of our hands, establish Thou it."

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"With Mouth To Ear"

BY CLYDE McCARVER, 32°, K.C.C.H.

Doors to a Better World

I used to be quite interested by the fact that a visiting dignitary was met by the mayor of a city and given the "Keys to The City"! I wondered just how many doors that key would really open. Why not give a key which would open some door whereby the man might find a place of quietness or rest? Ah, but that was the point! What really was being said was "We are hereby giving you free access to the doors of our heart." No greater gift could have been given anyone.

Even so, God would give us the keys which will open the doors to a better world and a better tomorrow. No fanfare is connected with this bestowal of grace. It is given with no desire that reciprocal gifts might be exchanged. That is the real genius connected with God's gifts to the sons of men. Before we can understand the meaning of the presentation of the keys, we must understand the meaning of the close relationship into which we are invited. We are asked to become fellow-workers in the quarries of life and to read carefully the designs set forth by the Master Architect. Hardly would one entrust his last will and testament to one whose loyalty is untested. We do not really trust those whose motives and belief we doubt. So, the question before the house is this: "What do you behold as you glance upon the designs set forth?" "What do you desire? What do you want to see there?" The true relevation of the meaning is found when we reach a real conviction of the worth of following the Great Architect. We are thereby in position to realize the meanings of the mysteries of our Master. We can then open doors—doors to the realization of God's Kingdom on the Earth.

Faith and allegiance are the prerequisites to the possession of the keys. Once having them placed in our hand, they are to be used in a proper manner. To him whom much is given must come the realization that much is required. They are not to be placed in some archive. They are not to be used for selfish pleasure and desires. They are to be used to open doors. If we fail to properly use them, these doors will possibly never be opened for ourselves or others. This is a frightening responsibility. Yet, it is the responsibility which each of us assumed when we dared to kneel at an

Rev. Clyde G. McCarver, 32°, K.C.C.H.

Altar in a Masonic Lodge. We cannot open all the doors in a day. The resources and the will of Almighty God for our life are simply inexhaustible!

Behold the first door: it is the door of fellowship. The Greek word which best describes this fellowship is "Koinona." This refers to the togetherness of men. Let there be no doubt about it: we were meant to live in fellowship one with the other. "Behold how good and pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity." No man is an island unto himself. Yet, it is tragically true that some receive this key and have seemed to have lost it! We make our affirmations. Our intentions are good; but, the pressures and the cares of the day leave less and less time for good fellowship within the craft. We are given this key which makes it possible for us to enter into the very presence of our God and to participate as one body of Masons and brothers in an act of rededication to each other and God. Fellowship, like the soil which we till, must be carefully cultivated or it will deteriorate and blow away . . . and great is the loss thereby!

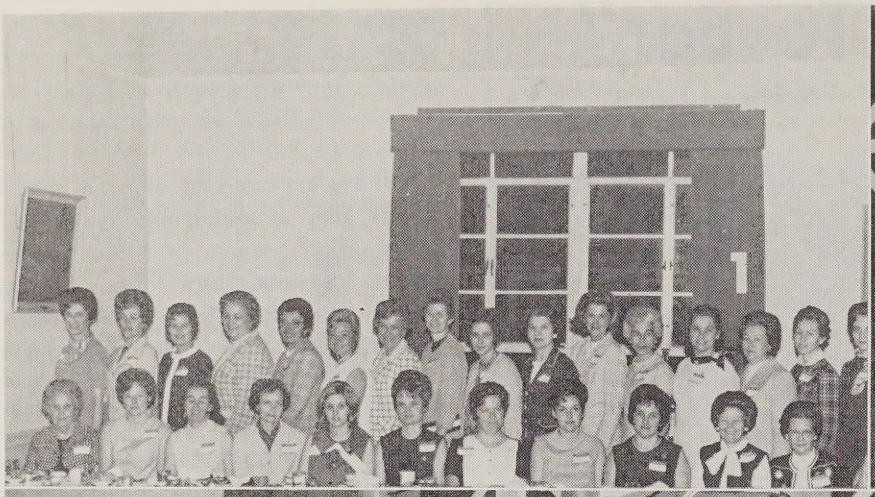
To be sure, life is a long, stiff, hard climb . . . who would doubt that? The winds of doubt and the shifting rocks of materialism and selfishness make it impossible for us to reach a better world alone. But with the companionship of the Great Architect and each other, our goal is certain. We have not been given a key to a clique; but, to a fellowship which encompasses the whole world. It is a fellowship which knows no bounds. Have we used this key recently?

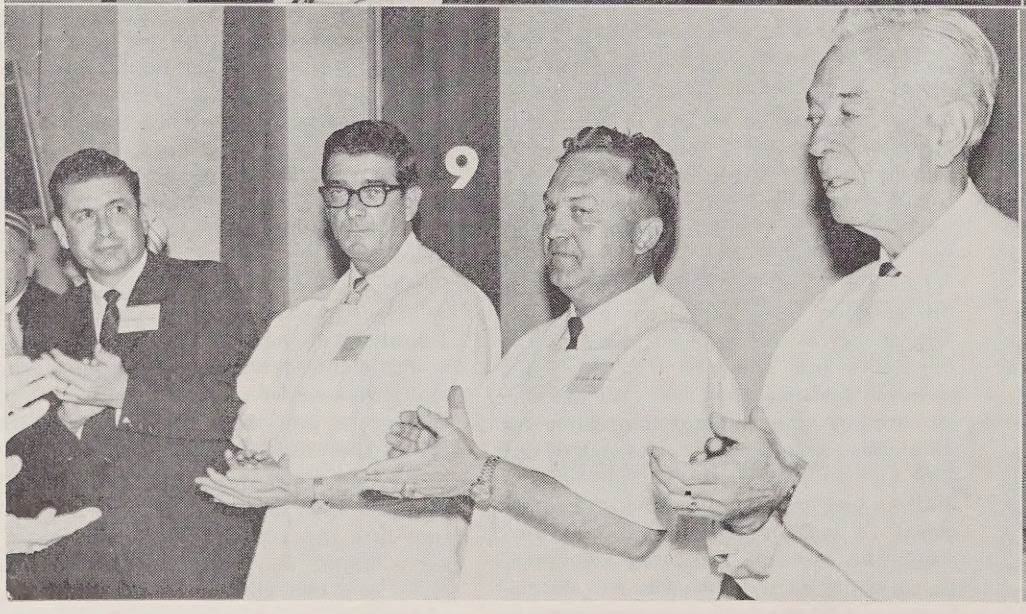
The second key that is given to us is to the door of understanding. It is a great thing to understand the meaning of life. So few really do! Almost all modern playwrighters give a pretty morbid view of life as one vast void in which a man is a prisoner! This morbid paralysis has crept over many lives today. The man who tries to find a pattern of life without including God is absolutely sure to arrive at a distorted view. It is no accident that the first words of the Bible are "In the beginning, God . . ." When we really discover God and understand Him, we discover that He has given us a great gift known as freedom. But, have we forgotten that with freedom goes responsibility? God took the great gamble when He created man with the ability to choose. When we use the key of understanding of the meaning of life, we come to know that the open sores of the world do not have their origin in God; but rather in the hearts of disobedient men.

Then there is the key of accepted responsibility. Freedom is but one side of the coin of life. Responsibility is the other side. You are free to make the choices of where you will place your allegiance. Having made the choices, we must take the responsibility of the results. There are too many who have never used the keys which have been given them. Many have thrown them away. Some have lost them through neglect. One thing is sure . . . one never discovers the joy of working in the quarries until he used the keys to a better world. He is to be pitied who looks at his Masonry as a luxury or a burden. To be greatly pitied is the man who never gets a thrill out of serving in and through Masonry, with the end to creating a better world.

You and I are descendants of a small group of men of the long ago who were sent into the quarries. We, like them, serve under a wise builder. He has given us a task to do. He has given us, you and me, the keys that will open the doors to the understanding of the mysteries of life. It is my fondest hope and my most fervent prayer that we shall all use the keys to the City of God which have been placed in our hands. It is for this cause that I call us to a real consecration to the building and dedication of a life. SO MOTE IT BE!

MEMORABLE SCENES FROM OUR SPRIN





1. Wives of candidates who enjoyed our Ladies' Tour.
2. Secretary Robert L. Pugh, 33°; Mrs. James G. Johnston; Ill. James G. Johnston, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in North Carolina.
3. Brother James G. Johnston and his lovely wife, "Sarah"
4. Our Secretary welcomes members and guests to the "Acacia Spring Reunion".
5. The James G. Johnston's seem to be delighted with the silver Wine Cooler presented them by the New Bern Bodies!!
6. Ill. W. J. "Dick" Bundy addressing the guests.

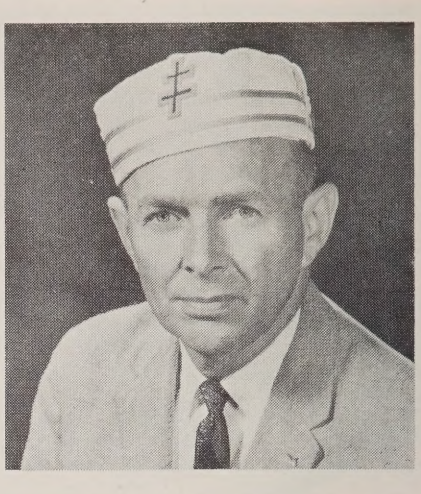
REUNION — APRIL 8, 9 and 10, 1969

7. "Miss North Carolina of 1969"—Anita Johnson—who presented her prize winning solo—at banquet on Tuesday evening—April 8th.
8. Inspector General James G. Johnston delivering his impressive address to the members on Wednesday, evening—April 9th.
9. Officers "The Acacia Class".
10. M.W. Robert N. Bass, Jr., 33°, Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina—speaking to the Brethren at the banquet hour on Thursday evening—April 10.
11. Brother Carl V. Babson—President of the "Acacia Class".
12. Outstanding members New Bern Scottish Rite Bodies—Ill. W. J. Bundy and Ill. E. P. Blair.

DOWN ONSLOW WAY

By

Reynold S. Davenport, 33°



DOWN ONSLOW WAY

Reynold Davenport, 33°

In March our esteemed friend and brother, Lieutenant General Herman Nickerson, Jr., USMC, 33°, went back to Vietnam, this time to command III Marine Amphibious Force; and we have this to say about that: If those who espouse communism and oppression in South Vietnam have been experiencing any shortage of implacable foes, that shortage is now relieved. On the other hand, those there who seek freedom will immediately feel the presence of a strong and worthy champion. Friend or foe, they will all know that he is there. Would to God that his ilk filled more posts of responsibility today.

Also in March there occurred a Ladies' Night Party in Onslow-Lejeune. Brother Odell Gladson, 32°, served charcoaled steaks at Jacksonville Moose Lodge on March 21st and Dr. John Messick, 32°, came down from Greenville to speak to us. Needless to say, this combination assured good attendance. Over three hundred packed the dining hall. They were not disappointed. The steaks were wonderful—and Brother Messick delivered a fine address, reviewing the known history of Masonry. He pointed out various applications of Masonic principles in daily living, remarking that it would be well if Masonic discipline could replace the attitude of permissiveness so prevalent today. Brother Messick was introduced by Past Grand Master James W. (Jimmy) Brewer, 33°, always a popular visitor in Onslow-Lejeune.

Then, too, in March there was another well attended meeting of the Onslow-Lejeune Scottish Rite Club. We have, in this club, enjoyed a succession of presidents who have, each in his own way, stimulated interest and participation. Brother Russell Bray, 32°, our current president, is presenting a program of safety during 1969 and has been achieving excellent results.

Going back to the subject of our lead paragraph, Brother Nickerson, reflection upon his vast contributions to Onslow-Lejeune Masonry during his brief stay at Camp Lejeune, caused us some weeks ago to do a little research into the effect this Marine Base has had upon local Masonry.

When the first Marines arrived here during World War II there were three Masonic Lodges in the county with a combined total membership of some 300 hundred Masons. Today more than twelve hundred Masons are members of the six lodges in Onslow. The number of lodges has doubled, the number of Masons has quadrupled. Not all of these new Masons, of course, are Marines, but the Leathernecks account for much of the increase and it is a wonderful part they play in our Fraternity. In our lodges, our Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine; in every Masonic activity Marines play leading roles. Some of the most beautiful friendships possible to man have been formed among civilians and Marines sharing Masonry in Onslow-Lejeune. It is a situation re-

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flecting credit upon all concerned; credit to those Masons who first welcomed their Marine brethren with open arms, credit to those military Masons who first united in Masonic Brotherhood with brethren in a new and strange environment, and credit to all those Masons — civilian and military — who have since labored together in the quarries of our Fraternity to build in Onslow-Lejeune a Masonic Fellowship which is not surpassed anywhere.

That's all from Onslow.

"FROM UP THE NEUSE"

By John D. Charlton, 32°

We will begin by offering hearty and sincere congratulations to the "Acacia Class—Spring 1969". You have begun a journey with a select group of men which can add meaning, purpose, and zest never before realized to the life of you and your family. We were delighted, through the degree work, to have had a small part in the beginning of this journey. So much was laid upon your minds those three days that I would commend to your reading the "Grand Commander's Message" in the April, 1969 issue of the "New Age" for a capsule comment on what the Scottish Rite was attempting to do for you. In addition, and you were told I am sure, you will find each month in the "New Age" Masonic writings that will enlighten and inspire you to the goals in life you left the reunion aspiring to reach.

Your Consistory (New Bern No. 3) covers eastern North Carolina. Therefore, we are first interested in, and justly so, what takes place within this jurisdiction and how it concerns and affects the lives of the entire citizenry. Within our jurisdiction we have a University, East Carolina, that is rapidly growing and achieving greatness through service to our region. Its very motto is "To Serve" and this it is attempting to do through a dynamic leadership. This leadership is attempting to bring to eastern North Carolina not only the best in teacher training but also in programs that will encompass the total needs of the region.

One of the many criteria necessary for education to be imparted and acquired is that of an undisturbed atmosphere within which to operate. The

John D. Charlton, 32°,
Kinston, N. C.

tranquility of this atmosphere has finally been disturbed at "Our" University. However, its leadership has promptly stepped forward and taken a strong position to preserve it and curb the disruption; for this we should be thankful. It is my contention that the preservation of the right to secure an education, in an atmosphere uninterrupted by those who think freedom is something that gives you the right to disrupt and destroy by force, is the responsibility of the total citizenry. We must give our support to those leaders who are standing up for us against these vociferous and destructive minorities who forgot, or maybe never learned, that the keys to freedom are responsibility for human decency and respect for the rights of others.

We cannot stand idly by and expect our institutions to supply our communities with the teaching and other professional leadership we desire without making at least the contribution of active support to those who are fighting to maintain the freedoms that so many have given their all for. Our constitution states we have "certain inalienable rights". The time has now come for the people to once again decide which rights are inalienable, and stand behind those leaders who have drawn the line against anarchistic behavior, violence, and destruction in the name of freedom by those who know not freedom's responsibility.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY"—ANITA!

"Miss North Carolina" of 1969 with Birthday Cake presented her by New Bern Scottish Rite Bodies at the banquet on April 8th.

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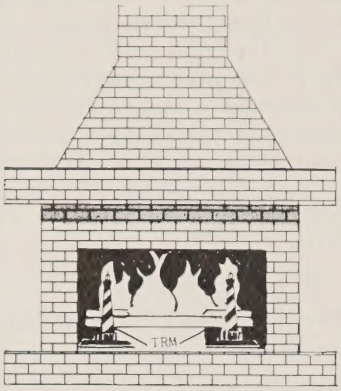
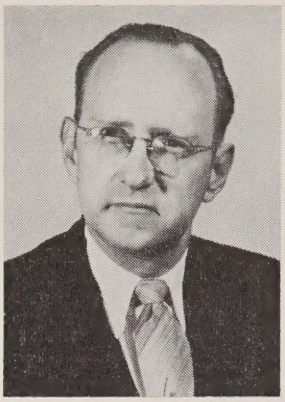


HEARTHSIDE CHATS

By

Tom MacRae



The General Assembly has killed—at least for this session—a proposal to ban the death penalty in North Carolina and make a life sentence term the maximum punishment that can be imposed by a State court.

Before the proposal was "buried" by the vote in the State House of Representatives, two Biblical passages were quoted at length by its supporters and opponents. "An eye for an eye . . ." and "turn the other cheek."

We have an open mind on the subject. While in the Army and as a working newsman, we have witnessed a death by firing squad, another by hanging and at least 15 in the electric chair. We are familiar with the gas chamber but have not watched one in use.

Only once have we observed the victim "being dragged to the chair." It was at the South Carolina state prison in the mid-50's and the 21-year-old prisoner had killed an elderly lady with an axe for her purse which contained about $12.

In the other "last mile walks" the prisoners walked without support. While several were praying, none appeared to be fearful. It was apparent they had placed their fate in God's hands.

And while respecting the views of those who would eliminate the death penalty, how many of them have considered the inmates and guards who could become the "target" of a "lifer?" Inside prison walls both guards and inmates are not armed.

One of our fraternal brothers, Emergency Judge Henry Stevens, Jr., of Warsaw, says that he believes the death penalty—imposed in the county in which the crime took place—will reduce the many crimes that take place daily.

Judge Stevens, after describing a "public hanging" in Duplin County, said "there wasn't another murder in the county for 20 years."

In our Scottish Rite teachings there are references to the crucifixion of Christ. This was the most horrible death penalty ever imposed on man. Some victims were in agony for three days before death.

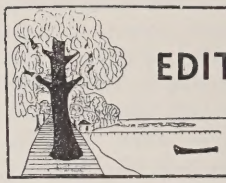
After receiving the death sentence, the victim was chained to a post about two feet tall. He was lashed with a "flagra," a whip consisting of several thin iron chains which ended with small weights.

The victim then carried (or it was tied to him) a seven-foot beam which would become the crossbar of the waiting cross. It was a two-mile walk to the execution site outside Jerusalem.

The executioner, or "carnifex servorum," drove five-inch iron spikes through the hands. After the crossbar went into place another two spikes were driven through the victim's feet.

While awaiting death, the victim suffered all the pains and symptoms of tetanus. There is no more cruel or agonizing death. It is interesting to note that crucifixion was banned by Emperor Constantine who became a Christian some 300 years after Christ died on the cross.

Although the death penalty still remains in many States, it would appear that the gas chamber, electric chair, noose and firing squad are more humane . . . from the viewpoint of both society and the victim.



EDITOR'S MAIL BAG

Your kind expression of sympathy is acknowledged with deep appreciation by the family of Otto Meyer.

Thanks for your courtesy card and also memorial you sent for my dear husband Otto. We all appreciate all of you for your thoughtfulness.

Kindest regards,
Hattie Meyer

The family of J. R. Meikle acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

We appreciate the memorial gift given by the New Bern Scottish Rite Bodies to the N. C. Scottish Rite Masonic Foundation, Inc. in memory of my husband.

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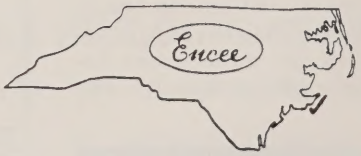

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SCOTTISH RITE CLUBS

Albert Pike Scottish Rite Club

The Albert Pike Scottish Rite Club of Plymouth, N. C. held their regular meeting on Monday night, March 31, 1969 at Tetterton's Restaurant where all members present enjoyed a delicious seafood dinner.

The following members were present: G. R. Leggett, Sr., President; W. C. Chesson, Secretary; R. H. Lucas, Woodrow Dixon, Leslie Manning, Leonard Davenport, W. C. Styons, W. C. Pate, Putt Landing, Bryant Harris, and Alton Gurganus and Floyd Asby, who became members of the Scottish Rite at our recent reunion.

Our next meeting will be determined at a later date.

We are very proud of the fine work done by Brother Bryant Harris, with the cooperation of the members of the club in obtaining candidates for our spring reunion.

The following facts have been impressed upon our Blue Lodge Brethren by our President and each member of the club, especially those Brethren that have recently received the degrees.

If one were to compare the first three degrees of Masonry to the three "R's" in education, the Scottish Rite degrees would then be comparable to an advanced degree from a great University. Or, to put it another way, the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is like an oasis in a very beautiful valley at the end of a long trail. As one drives across a desert area knowing that a city lies ahead of him, he may see only scanty life by the roadside, but, passing through a cut in the roadway, he will presently find plant life more abundant. As he continues his journey, the roadside becomes somewhat greener, and soon there lies before him a beautiful valley in which he can see a magnificent city. The Scottish Rite is like that too.

Throughout the Scottish Rite degrees new lessons are taught and learned, and old lessons take on new meanings. The philosophy expressed in the lessons of the several degrees affords food for a lifetime of fruitful study. In these lessons are found the wisdom of the ages. Moreover, the pageantry, the drama, and the oratory employed make more brilliant the light of truth as it all flashes before one in panoramic splendor.

Although the scenes are not easy to describe, they are most satisfying. The panorama offers something that one can best feel as it provides answers to an inquiring mind. The lessons taught are not only stimulating but are also challenging. Then, too, membership in the Scottish Rite is an investment. The dividends are great and, interestingly enough, they are largest when needed most. Scottish Rite Masonry, like Holy Writ, contains those eternal verities that will guide one constructively throughout his entire life.

Furthermore, Scottish Rite Masonry speaks in a universal language. The Scottish Rite brings together in all parts of the world the best of all ages and all civilizations. It could go a long way toward making the peoples of the world all one in spirit.

To every Master Mason who is truly in search of further light, the Scottish Rite degrees can be recommended.

Wilmer C. Chesson, Sec. & Treas.

Dare Scottish Rite Club

22 March 1969

The Dare Scottish Rite Club met at the Masonic Lodge Hall, Manteo, N. C. at 7:00 P.M. on March 22, 1969.

The meeting was called to order by Bro. John E. Finn, President. Opening prayer was by Bro. Donald Vance.

The President took up the matter of new Candidates for the Spring Reunion. He called attention to the new forms, and the proper method of preparing same. A general discussion followed, by the membership present, concerning the Reunion.

After a short discussion, it was decided to leave the next meeting date open at the present time. The members are to be notified by the Secretary at a later date.

A motion was made by Bro. Arthur R. Johnson, seconded by Bro. Donald Vance, and so carried, that all outstanding bills be paid.

Refreshments for the next regular meeting are to be in the form of a covered dish supper.

The meeting was closed by a prayer by Bro. Z. F. Payne.

All members present, and their wives, adjourned to Spencer's Restaurant for a happy social hour, and a most enjoyable oyster dinner.

William T. Beacham
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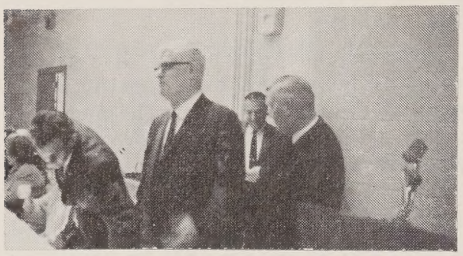
East Carteret Scottish Rite Club Ladies Nite

Members and guests enjoying the party.



l to r—L. B. Daniels, 32°, Toastmaster; Harvey W. Smith, Imperial Outer Guard Shrine of No. America; Chas. McKay, 32°, President, E. Carteret S. Rite Club and R. W. Safrit, Jr., 32°, K.C.C.H..

Robert L. Pugh, 33°, Secretary

Rev. Alton P. Hill, 32°, speaker for the evening.

The East Carteret Scottish Rite Club held its annual spring Ladies Nite dinner on March 22nd, at the East Carteret High School Cafeteria. The menu for the evening included Roast Beef and Vegetables.

The attendance was very good with approximately 180 brothers and ladies. There were numerous distinguished guests, to mention a few, Brother A. A. Kafer, Past Grand Master of N. C., Brother Frank Noble, Jr., Grand Steward, Brother Harvey Smith, Outer Guard of the Imperial Shrine, and Brother Bob Pugh, Secretary, Scottish Rite Temple, and of course the photographer, Brother Earl M. Noe, Sr., KCCH.

The meeting started with the invocation given by Brother Tommy Noe, Morehead City. Master of Ceremonies for the entire affair was Brother L. B. Daniels, PM, Beaufort. Brother Charles McKay, President East Carteret Scottish Rite Club gave the welcoming address. Prior to the main speaker, Brother Pugh had a few words about the upcoming Spring Reunion.

Brother Alton Hill, Minister from Morehead City, was the speaker for the evening and gave an inspiring speech that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

One other notable present was Brother Robert Safrit, KCCH.

After a wonderful evening of food and mind enrichment the Ladies Nite adjourned.

Fraternally yours,

A. C. Blankenship, 32°, Secretary

A short business meeting of the East Carteret Scottish Rite Club was held at Franklin Lodge #109, April 7th, with 16 members present. The only business was urging everyone to attend the reunion and carry any other candidates we might have at the last minute. After a few remarks by some of the brethren the meeting was adjourned.

The Elizabeth City Scottish Rite Club

The Elizabeth City Scottish Rite Club met March 21, 1969 at Eureka Lodge Temple for their ladies night.

Bro. M. W. Coates, Sr., president, called the meeting to order. Brother Robert F. Spence, K.C.C.H., gave the invocation. Bro. Coates welcomed all members, wives and visitors to the supper. As usual for the ladies night supper shrimp and all its trimmings were served. There were about ninety-four present and all seemed to enjoy the meal very much.

Bro. Francis W. Clark, 33°, recognized some visitors prsent and then presented Brother Charles T. Potter, K.C.C.H., our speaker for the evening.

Bro. Potter stated it was an honor to be asked to come to Elizabeth City to speak to the Scottish Rite Club and their wives and visitors.

Bro. Potter brought us a wonderful message, saying that all Masons should be patriotic to their country and live the good life. We are taught this in the degrees in our Blue Lodge and Scottish Rite Masonry.

The speaker praised the Masons of this state for having such a good home for the elderly people, our Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro is a credit to the Masons and Eastern Star members of the state. The Oxford Orphanage has proved to be one of the best orphanages anywhere.

Bro. Potter stated most men come in Masonry because they have a good opinion of Masonry and warned us to be good Masons because we are being watched daily by others. Our lodge should not take the place of our church. We should support our church first by all means.

Bro. Potter thanked the members of Elizabeth City Scottish Rite Club for inviting him to speak to them and said he hoped he would be able to return. After a standing ovation the meeting was adjurned.

R. K. Hollomon, Sec.-Treas.

Fort Bragg Scottish Rite Ladies Night

On Wednesday night, March 19, 1969, approximately 150 Scottish Rite Masons, prospective candidates, and their ladies assembled in the Horace Ziglar Banquet Hall of Fort Bragg Lodge # 667, Spring Lake, N. C.

Brother William C. Hammond, Jr., 32°, KCCH, acted as Toastmaster for the occasion and after an invocation by Brother Allen C. Edens, 32°, the assemblage enjoyed a most delicious meal prepared and served by the Ladies of the Eastern Star. They were assisted by the young ladies of the Order of the Rainbow who added much to the color and festive air of the evening.

After the introduction of distinguished guests, the Toastmaster called upon Brother C. Wallace Jackson, 33°, who introduced Brother Dr. Karl H. Berns, 32°, Assistant to the President, Methodist College, Fayetteville, N. C., who brought a most inspired and informative message. Dr. Berns described to us his impressions of education around the world; he having recently made a trip

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around the world investigating this subject.

We were fortunate in having our beloved Secretary, Brother Robert L. Pugh, 33°, present for the occasion. At the conclusion of Dr. Berns' address, Brother Pugh addressed the assemblage on the advantages of Scottish Rite Masonry, using photographs of his "Scottish Rite Children" to illustrate his message.

Both messages were well received and invoked many favorable comments from those present.

Brother Edens then pronounced the benediction and the assemblage repaired to their respective homes filled with enthusiasm for our forthcoming reunion.

Havelock-Cherry Point Scottish Rite Party

On Friday night, March 21, 1969, the Havelock-Cherry Point Scottish Rite Club entertained the Masons and their wives who live in the nearby locality with a dinner party. The activity was held in the Graham A. Barden School Cafeteria beginning at 7:00 P.M.

Brother E. P. Blair, President of the local club, performed in his usual exotic manner as Toastmaster for the evening. His tirades of humor brought active participation by all who were present. After the usual introductory remarks, Brother Ed asked Brother Russell Talley, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, to give the invocation which was followed by an address of welcome by Brother H. W. Bushwitz.

A delicious dinner was then served by members of the Order of the Eastern Star, The Rainbow Assembly, and the DeMolay Chapter. This consisted of tomato juice cocktail, tossed salad, baked ham, creamed potatoes, string beans, hot rolls and coffee, and rounded off with delightful lemon pie.

After the meal was properly disposed of, Brother C. T. Denham, Secretary of the club, gave a toast to the ladies after which Mrs. Jack De Lay responded with appropriate thoughts. Special music was then offered by Brother J. C. Parker, who announced to those present that he was sure they would rather hear the vocal solos from Mrs. Barbara Wiggins accompanied by Mr. Kilpatrick.

Brother R. L. Pugh was then called upon to announce the imminent Scottish Rite Reunion and to explain the purpose of the dinner party there assembled. His handling of the subject was superbly done in his usual good manner and verbiage and the group seemed ready to hear the speaker of the evening. After appropriate remarks, Brother E. H. Jones, of Cherry Point, introduced Brother William J. Bundy and presented him to the party.

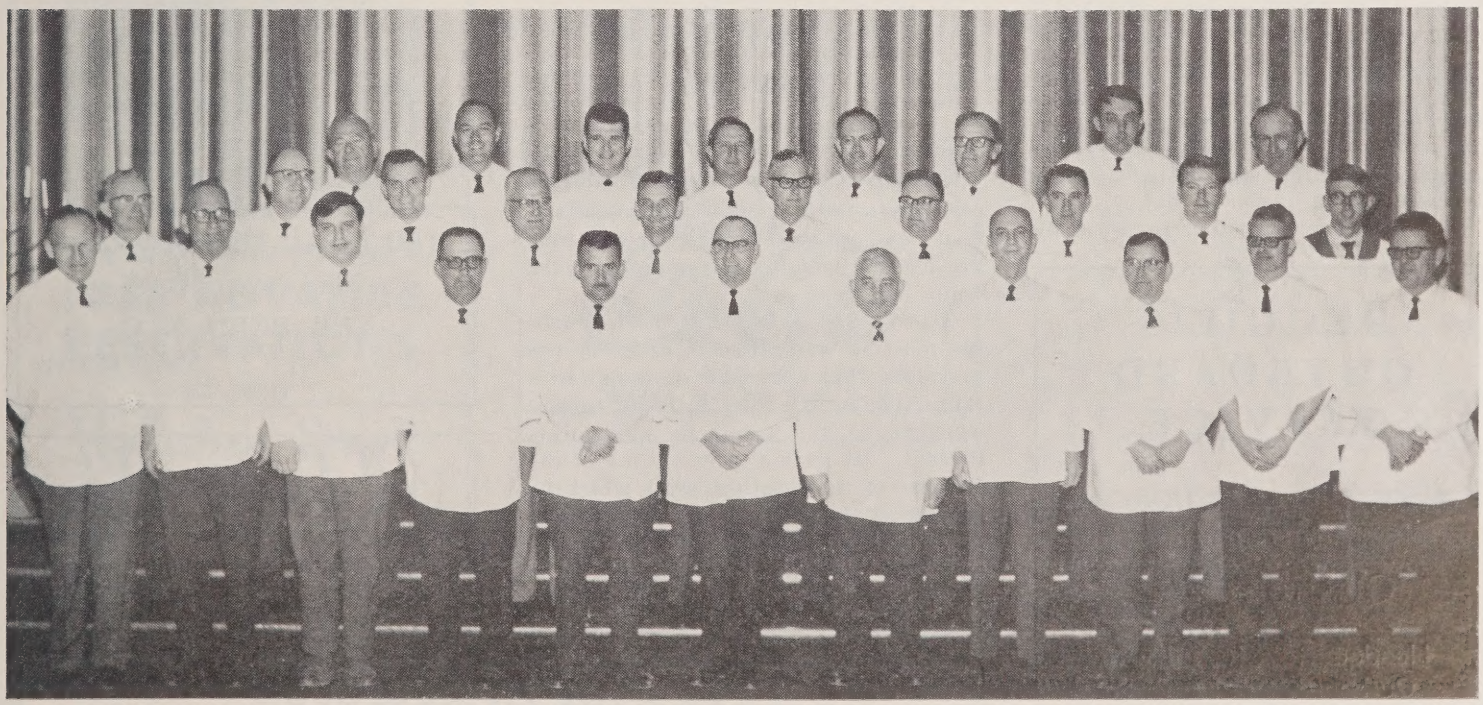
Brother Bundy was exceedingly generous with his unusual quips of good humor intermixed with choice morsels of valuable Masonic History. During his more serious remarks was the proposition that America must be preserved and it is the duty of each Mason to make his influence known.

After a presentation we will long remember, Brother J. C. Parker pronounced the benediction.

Martin County Scottish Rite Club

The Martin County Scottish Rite Club held its regular meeting at Your Restaurant in Robersonville, N. C., on April 2, 1969. There were sixteen members and three prospective candidates present. President P. C. Bryant thanked the candidates for attending the meeting and hoped to see them at our regular meeting after the Reunion. Brother Charles Gray made some good comments to the candidates about the Scottish Rite Bodies and the Reunion on April 8, 9 and 10, 1969. President Bryant thanked Brother Gray for all efforts put forth by him for the coming Reunion which we all hope will be a very suc-

CANDIDATES ENFIELD SCOTTISH RITE BODIES—SPRING REUNION, MARCH 26, 1969



L. to R. First row—Wm. B. Pemberton, Fred L. Hutto, Wm. D. Stewart, Junious C. Warren, Herbert L. Hendricks, Jr., Charles Roberts, Floyd D. Overton, James W. Williams, Edward T. Forbes, Marion L. Fisher, Jr., and Stanley E. Dixon.

Second row—John J. Cummings, Joseph K. Turner, Jr., Rex Browning, Robert E. Sheffield, Carl L. Kornegay, Daniel J. Tinkham, Thomas L. Pritchard, Linwood L. Rawls, Sr., Edward R. Evans, Jr., and Joseph R. Barrett.

Third row—Jenkins R. Satterthwaite, C. Howard Cliborne, Jr., Harvey E. Jackson, Millard N. Carpenter, Jr., Paul R. Jenkins, George E. Gibbs, Horace N. Carmichael and John D. Carver. (Photo—by Killebrew)

cessful and happy one.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Our next meeting will be at the Town and Country Restaurant on May 7th, 1969, at 7:30 P.M.

King Leggett, Secretary

The New Bern Scottish Rite Club

The New Bern Scottish Rite Club held its regular meeting Monday night, Mar. 10th, at 7 o'clock in the Scottish Rite Temple with Brother Howard, 32°, President, presiding.

After prayer by Brother C. T. Potter, 32°, K. C. C. H. the minutes of the last meeting were read and the treasurer's report given. Two new members were welcomed Brothers H. W. Crump and L. J. Eller. Most of the evening was taken up discussing prospects for the coming reunion April 8-9-10, after which we retired to the regular Scottish Rite monthly meeting in the lodge room.

J. R. Chadwick, 32°, K.C.C.H.
Secretary

Onslow-Lejeune Scottish Rite Club

The Onslow-Lejeune Scottish Rite Club held its March meeting March 31, 1969, at 7:30 P.M., at the Moose Lodge in Jacksonville, North Carolina. This meeting was scheduled for Swansboro but due to difficulties encountered it was moved to Jacksonville. We are hoping that a meeting can be held in the Swansboro area at a later date.

The meeting was called to order by our president, Brother Russ Bray, who expressed his appreciation for the wonderful turn out and announced that the next meeting would be held in the White Oak area. He encouraged all of us to attend. Brother Dave Owens gave the invocation after which we enjoyed a delicious steak dinner prepared under the supervision of Brother Gladson.

After dinner we were "zapped" with a most interesting talk on Home Safety by Capt. Willer of Camp Lejeune. He, in essence, told us that through our own negligence we have so many accidents around the house.

The purpose of the meeting being accomplished, Brother Reynolds Davenport gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Russ Bray, President
James W. Batchelor, Secretary-Treas.

ALMONER'S FUND

Whenever bills are sent to the members for dues payable there is always included an envelope marked "Almoner's Fund" together with a letter explaining the use of the Almoner's Fund and asking for more liberal contributions. This method has helped in increasing the amount of funds available. These monies are to be used of course to aid distressed Scottish Rite Masons and they are available to our members throughout the jurisdiction. Requests for such assistance, however, must be approved by Court of Honour members and Ambassadors in that particular community.

Pitt County Scottish Rite Club

On Friday night, March 21st, at 7 P.M. the Pitt County Scottish Rite Club held their second pre-reunion meeting at the Silo Restaurant. There were sixteen members present together with four prospective members as guests of the club.

After a delicious roast beef dinner the meeting was called to order by the president, Bro. Fred H. Rogers. Brother Rogers extended a most cordial welcome to the members and guests present. He gave a brief outline of the purpose of the meeting, after which he introduced Judge J. W. H. Roberts who gave a most informative talk to the prospective candidates concerning the various degrees comprising the Scottish Rite. His talk was both instructive and interesting.

From the reports of the various members present it appears that Pitt County will have a good class of candidates. The members were urged to contact those that had indicated the desire and intention of taking the work and get their names affixed to the petitions and send them in.

The meeting was adjourned with all the members present asked to exert every effort to make this reunion the best one ever.

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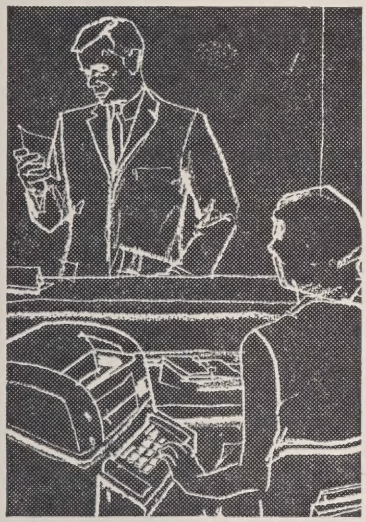

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In Memoriam

Our memories are precious gifts.
To treasure through the years,
To comfort us when days are dark,
And eyes are dimmed with tears,
Without them we'd be desolate.
When loved ones slip away.
Possessing them our hearts re-live,
And so — when separation comes,
To bring us bitter loss,
Our memories are precious gifts,
To help bear the cross.

Marvin Wyche Howard, 32°, Ocracoke, N. C.	**3/26/69**
James Roderick Meikle, 32°, Cramerton, N. C.	**3/15/69**
Otto Meyer, 32°, Enfield, N. C.	**3/19/69**
Woodrow Wilson Respass, 32°, Jacksonville, N. C.	**3/29/69**
Brooks Burdette Mullenax, 32°, Fayetteville, N. C.	**12/15/68**
Daniel Hamer Stubbs, 32°, Windsor, N. C.	**4/21/69**
William Tyre Frost, 32°, Salter Path, N. C.	**4/25/69**

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Oscar Sermons, 32° ..... Vice-President
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Leslie L. Parker, 32°, K.C.C.H. ..... Secretary-Treas.

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Calvin A. Jackson, 32° ..... Vice-President
Marvin R. Noble, 32° ..... Secretary-Treasurer

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King Leggett, 32° ..... Secretary-Treasurer

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Fred H. Rogers, 32° ..... President
Alfred P. Tetterton, 32° ..... Vice-President
Edward D. Austin, 32° ..... Secretary-Treasurer

Rocky Mount Scottish Rite Club
John L. Thompson, 32° ..... President
James F. King, Jr., 32° ..... Vice-President
Frank L. Yost, 32° ..... Secretary-Treasurer

Wilson County Scottish Rite Club
Walter Lamm, 32° ..... President
Carl C. Aycock, 32° ..... Vice-President
D. M. Harrell, 32° ..... Secretary-Treasurer

1969 SPRING REUNION

Service Award Medal Winners

April 8, 9 and 10, 1969

A. Derrick Hatsell, P. O. Box 363, Swansboro, N. C.
Cicero Lewis, Williston, N. C.
Ellis F. Leamer, 215 Richlands Avenue, Jacksonville, N. C.
Benjamin L. Parker, Rt. 2, Box 283, Trenton, N. C.
Thomas P. Mathias, Rt. 3, Box 84 A, Ahoskie, N. C.

32° Cap Winners

H. Carrol Arthur, 5207 Springwood Drive, New Bern, N. C.
James W. Bevill, Sr., P. O. Box 415, New Bern, N. C.
Oscar M. Burrus, Box 85, Ocracoke, N. C.
Willie Herman Cook, Rt. 2, Box 2-A, New Bern, N. C.
Edward L. Coleman, 918 Greenfield Blvd., Havelock, N. C.
William J. Creed, 141 Bryan Blvd., Havelock, N. C.
Edward R. Edwards, P. O. Box 1106, Washington, N. C.
Curtis O. Forehand, Rt. 3, Box 68-A, Edenton, N. C.
Willilam J. Jackson, 504 W. Main Street, Elizabeth City, N. C.
Marvin L. Kornegay, 101 N. Independence Ave., Kinston, N. C.
Brig/Gen. F. C. La Hue, U. S. M. C., Camp Lejeune, N. C.

W. F. Miller, Rt. 1, Box 83, Swansboro, N. C.
John H. Metts, Rt. 1, Box 58, Hubert, N. C.
James D. Manley, 1050 E. Pelelieu Drive, Tarawa Terrace, N. C.
Tom McCree, Jr., P. O. Box 56, Holly Ridge, N. C.
Loyd E. Swinson, 26 Carole Drive, Jacksonville, N. C.
John Bonner Willis, Rt. 4, Box 21-H, New Bern, N. C.
Johnny R. West, 3108 Oaks Road, New Bern, N. C.
E. Coy Wetherington, 1107 Park Drive, New Bern, N. C.
William A. Weeks, 3103 Arendell Street, Morehead City, N. C.
Phillip L. Swinson, Rt. 1, Box 19-A, Jamesville, N. C.
Jesse W. Harris, 32°, KCCH, P. O. Box 755, Enfield, N. C.
Robert L. Beale, R.F.D., Box 117, Aulander, N. C.
Marvin C. Mills, P. O. Box 2343, New Bern, N. C.
James D. Willis, 124 Crescent Drive, Beaufort, N. C.
Dallas R. Willis, Sea Level, N. C.

A Service Award Medal is awarded for getting 5 Petitions during any four consecutive Reunions.

A 32° Cap is awarded for getting 3 Petitions during any four consecutive Reunions.

The Acacia Class Minutes

On Tuesday afternoon, April 8, 1969, the Acacia class of candidates receiving the beautiful and very inspiring degrees of the Scottish Rite in the Valley of New Bern, N. C., held its first business meeting under the temporary chairmanship of Illustrious Brother Robert L. Pugh, 33°, Secretary of the New Bern, N. C. Scottish Rite Bodies.

After numerous nominations the following slate of officers were elected:

President: Carl V. Babson.
Vice President: Billy G. Haire.
Secretary: David A. Boyd.
Orator: D. Burkett Raper, President of Mount Olive College.

On Thursday evening Brother William J. Bundy, 33°, acted as Master of Ceremonies and introduced the class president who in turn introduced the class officers. The Class President gave thanks to the Stage Crew, Directors of the Work, members of the Robing room, the choir, participants in the degrees, the class marshals and all others who made this reunion such a success. He then introduced the class orator, Brother Raper, who gave an interesting and inspiring address, and stated that these beautiful and inspiring degrees meant more than he could possibly tell.

The program was again returned to the Master of Ceremonies Brother Bundy who stated that "this class of candidates was the best looking class to receive the degrees since he received the degrees himself."

Most Worshipful Brother Robert N. Bass, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, was introduced who also delivered a most inspiring and interesting address.

Brother Robert L. Pugh, 33°, Secretary of the New Bern Bodies, was recognized and announced several awards. Brother Pugh thanked everyone for their fine work and cooperation during the reunion.

The reunion was closed with prayer.

To Our New Initiates

New Members of "The Acacia Class' Initiated Spring Reunion,

April 8, 9 and 10, 1969

4° THROUGH 14°

Robert Bruce Boyd.....Cove City, N. C.
William B. Harper.....Deep Run, N. C.

15° THROUGH 32°

John Wayne Bryant.....Beaufort, N. C.
Leland Gold Hardison.....Robersonville, N. C.
John M. Tyndall.....New Bern, N. C.

19° THROUGH 32°

Robert Clyde Barrett.....Conway, N. C.
Horace W. Carmichael.....Rocky Mount, N. C.
Millard N. Carpenter, Jr.....Margarettsville, N. C.
John Jim Cummings.....Tarboro, N. C.
Joseph Q. Dickerson.....Murfreesboro, N. C.
Stanley E. Dixon.....Murfreesboro, N. C.
Marion Leroy Fisher, Jr.....Weldon, N. C.
Edwin Tully Forbes.....Murfreesboro, N. C.
George Elbert Gibbs.....Murfreesboro, N. C.
Herbert L. Hendricks, Jr.....Battleboro, N. C.
Frederick L. Hutto.....Rocky Mount, N. C.
Paul R. Jenkins.....Murfreesboro, N. C.
Simon Julius Meyer.....Enfield, N. C.
Floyd D. Overton.....Ahoskie, N. C.
William B. Pemberton.....Rocky Mount, N. C.
Thurman G. Pritchard.....Margarettsville, N. C.
Nelson M. Pruden.....Roanoke Rapids, N. C.
Bobby E. Puett.....Rocky Mount, N. C.
Linwood L. Rawls, Sr.....Ahoskie, N. C.
Charles (NMN) Roberts.....Ahoskie, N. C.
Jenkins R. Satterthwaite.....Tarboro, N. C.
William D. Stewart.....Rocky Mount, N. C.
Roland Styron.....Davis, N. C.
Henry L. Taylor, Jr.....Enfield, N. C.
Daniel J. Tinkham.....Ahoskie, N. C.
Harry L. Williams.....Halifax, N. C.
James W. Williams.....Tarboro, N. C.

31° THROUGH 32°

Harry Sheldon Davis.....Beaufort, N. C.

4° THROUGH 32°

James E. Alston.....Morehead City, N. C.
Carl Junior Anderson.....New Bern, N. C.
Floyd W. Asby.....Roper, N. C.
Carl V. Babson.....Jacksonville, N. C.
Doris Basden.....Beulaville, N. C.
David A. Boyd.....Williamston, N. C.
Archie M. Brantley.....Aurora, N. C.
Ernest R. Brinson.....New Bern, N. C.
Seth Carter Brinson.....New Bern, N. C.
Samuel G. Broadway.....Vanceboro, N. C.
Lewis M. Brown.....Newport, N. C.
Billie A. Burcham.....Camp Lejeune, N. C.
Elmer R. Burroughs.....New Bern, N. C.
John L. Burroughs.....Grantsboro, N. C.
West William Byrum.....Edenton, N. C.
James D. Cole.....Holly Ridge, N. C.
Bert (NMN) Conner, Jr.....Beaufort, N. C.
Charles W. Conway, Jr.....Marshallburg N. C.
George A. Courie, Jr.....Jacksonville, N. C.
Jim H. Cowan.....Williamston, N. C.
Franklin D. Craner.....New Bern, N. C.
Wiley T. Crawford.....New Bern, N. C.
Bruce A. Darlington.....Jacksonville, N. C.
Martin V. B. Davis, Jr.....Havelock, N. C.
Charles F. Dickinson, Sr.....New Bern, N. C.
James C. Duffy.....Jacksonville, N. C.
William S. Eason.....Hubert, N. C.
Roy LeVerne Edwards.....Aurora, N. C.
William C. Elks.....Washington, N. C.
James D. Elliott.....Edenton, N. C.
Karl Edward Faser.....Camp Lejeune, N. C.

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Cecil E. Ferebee.....New Bern, N. C.
Edward E. Forrest.....New Bern, N. C.
Edward H. Fulcher.....Atlantic Beach, N. C.
Roland T. Geddes.....Jacksonville, N. C.
William T. Gilgo.....New Bern, N. C.
Marion M. Godwin.....Jacksonville, N. C.
Evan Dale Goldman.....New Bern, N. C.
John M. Gray.....Greenville, N. C.
George W. Greenwell.....Tarawa Terrace, N. C.
Alton O. Gurganus.....Roper, N. C.
Billy Gray Haire.....New Bern, N. C.
Troy W. Hancock.....Jacksonville, N. C.
Donnie M. Hardison.....Robersonville, N. C.
Benjamin T. Harper.....Snow Hill, N. C.
Victor L. Harper.....Trenton, N. C.
Robert Ray Harrison.....Trenton, N. C.
Edward D. Hartsell.....Greenville, N. C.
James C. Hillard.....Farmville, N. C.
Fred C. Hollis.....Blounts Creek, N. C.
Benjamin J. Hopkins.....Williamston, N. C.
Donald M. Howard.....New Bern, N. C.
Heber L. Howard.....Kinston, N. C.
Michael P. Hudson.....Havelock, N. C.
James F. Hunter.....Jacksonville, N. C.
Marcus Kneale Innis.....Morehead City, N. C.
Thomas Bruce Ives.....Kinston, N. C.
Earl B. Jenkins.....Fayetteville, N. C.
Elisha L. Jenkins.....New Bern, N. C.
James L. Kilpatrick.....Kinston, N. C.
Harry L. Kimball.....Spring Lake, N. C.
Victor Biglar King.....Kinston, N. C.
Leslie Y. Kirby.....Edenton, N .C.
Teddy A. Korytynski.....Fayetteville, N. C.
Leroy Leggett.....Williamston, N. C.
Edward W. Lifset.....Camp Lejeune, N. C.
Charles R. Littleton.....New Bern, N. C.
Frederick Nelson Long, Jr.....New Bern, N. C.
Billy Morgan Marston.....Farmville, N. C.
Allen R. Mercer.....Beulaville, N. C.
Floyd J. Messer.....Farmville, N. C.
Richard Blain Meyers.....Havelock, N. C.
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Belmont J. Morgan.....Morehead City, N. C.
William Reginald Moss.....Elizabeth City, N. C.
Frank A. McLeod.....New Bern, N. C.
Roy F. McPhatter.....Jacksonville, N. C.
Willard H. Needham.....Rocky Mount, N. C.
Curtis G. Nelson.....Harkers Island, N. C.
Donald E. Miemeyer.....Midway Park, N. C.
John Edward O'Garra.....New Bern, N. C.
John Charles O'Hey.....Jacksonville, N. C.
James E. Oliver.....New Bern, N. C.
Dewey Outlaw.....Kinston, N. C.
William D. Perry.....New Bern, N. C.
Dennis L. Pittman.....New Bern, N. C.
Fred Rogers Pollock.....Trenton, N. C.
William B. Raper.....Mount Olive, N. C.
Danford E. Raynor.....Goldsboro, N. C.
William Richard Rice.....New Bern, N. C.
Edward Earl Salter.....Newport, N. C.
Norvel M. Scott.....Jacksonville, N. C.
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William R. Spencer.....Ocracoke, N. C.
Edwin H. Stubblefield.....Greenville, N. C.
Rodolfo S. Sutis.....Jacksonville, N. C.
Theodore D. Svoboda.....Cherry Point, N. C.
Curtis W. Taylor.....Newport, N. C.
Herbert A. Taylor.....Durham, N. C.
Luther R. Thigpen.....Beaufort, N. C.
Donald R. Tomlinson.....Wilson, N. C.
Curtis (NMN) Ward.....Grifton, N. C.
Terry A. Wetherington.....New Bern, N. C.
Luther M. Whitehurst, Jr.....Ocracoke, N. C.
William N. Wilder.....Kinston, N. C.
Hubert B. Williford, Jr. .....Edenton, N. C.
Roland (NMN) Wooten.....Farmville, N. C.
Wallis N. Zimmerman.....Shiloh, N. C.

"THE ACACIA CLASS"—NEW BERN SCOTTISH RITE BODIES—SPRING REUNION—APRIL 8, 9 AND 10, 1969

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